



Delaware County Black Caucus

ANNUAL REPORT

March 4, 2023

WHO ARE WE?

Founded in June of 2018, the Delaware County Black Caucus (DCBC) is an assembly of African American leaders located within the county, who are committed to representing the needs, interests, and improve the quality of life of the Black community in Delaware County. We started with about 20 members and today we have grown to over 50 active and dues paying members.

MISSION

Our mission is to serve as an information and advocacy vehicle to advance the interests and improve the overall quality of life for African American citizens within the county of Delaware.

OUR LEADERSHIP TEAM

CONVENERS

- Anthony H. Williams, State Senator, 8th District
- William Felder, Sharon Hill Council
- Lanna Minor of Clifton Heights
- Malcolm Yates of Marcus Hook
- Myron McNeely, Constable, Upper Darby

TREASURER

- Darlene Hill, Darby Borough Council

SECRETARY

- Nicole Whitaker of Upper Chichester Township

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

- Rita Waters, Membership Chair
- Afia Lewis, Education Chair
- Darlene Hill, Event Planning Chair
- Arnold Jones, Judiciary & Law Enforcement Chair
- Dr. Angela Marie Whitsett Gilbert, Health & Welfare Chair
- Rashid Duggan, Communications Co-Chairs
- Darlene Hill, Finance & Fundraising Chair
- Kenya Cain, Economic Development Chair



2022 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- DCBC advocated for over two years for the release of Leroy Evans who was wrongfully convicted of a crime he did not commit. We worked closely with his attorney Mike Malloy, Esq. to provide support and assist Malloy and Evans's family to raise awareness of his wrongful incarceration and demand for his release. We also stayed in close contact with the local DA's office in addition to holding a press conference as well. We are happy to report that Leroy was released last year!



- In July of 2022, the Event Planning Committee led efforts on behalf of the organization to host DCBC's 4th Anniversary Celebration & Fundraiser which was back in person at Oaks Ballroom and was a success!
- We have continuously shared information about job opportunities to increase minority representation.
- We re-joined the Delaware County Chamber of Commerce to stay connected to the business community.
- Our Symposium was back in-person this past year and we had a full house! The focus of the symposium was mental health and we were honored to have actress and author, Tina Lifford as our keynote speaker. We were also joined by Governor Josh Shapiro, mental health service providers, and Cheyney University students who provided meaningful insight about the challenges and stress of life and how they cope post pandemic. We were also joined by NBC10 news reporter Leah Uko who did a great job emceeding and moderating the event.



- The Judicial and Law Enforcement Committee hosted a forum celebrating fathers and fatherhood which provided in-depth discussion and lots of resources for men who are raising children in Delaware County.

- We hosted a series of press conferences in support of and to secure justice for - Fanta Bility. We attended the one year anniversary of Fanta's tragic death and we consistently applied pressure to Sharon Hill Council and the police report to release the redacted report outlining recommendations for improvements to the police department and training to ensure what happened to Fanta never happens again. This is an ongoing advocacy effort that we will continue to support until justice for Fanta is obtained.



- DCBC supported the Pennwood Middle School for several different events during the holidays to support the students including but not limited to Trunk or Treat for Halloween, Thanksgiving, and other fundraisers and community service projects for MLK Day and Black History Month that took place at the school.
- The Event Planning Committee organized a Toy & Gift Drive for children and families in need in Delaware County. This is an annual event that we've held during the holiday season to ensure families in need have gifts for Christmas.

OUTLOOK FOR 2023

- **Develop a closer relationship with elected officials & leaders:** The DCBC wants to ensure that African-American voices will be a part of executive-level conversations that address concerns for our community. To that end, we will continue to engage and invite leaders at the local, state, and national levels to have conversations with our organization regarding issues that impact our community.
- **Friends of DCBC:** DCBC has established the Friends group to provide an opportunity to anyone or any organization that has an interest in supporting the work of the organization. A "Friend" will not be a member of the organization and will not have voting rights. However, they can attend special events hosted by the Caucus such as the annual fundraiser, our annual symposium, health forums, and other community meetings or events we have throughout the year. The Friends group can support the work of the organization through giving financial contributions, lending expertise, and/or providing in-kind donations.
- **Increasing Diversity & Inclusion:** Not only do we want to have a better relationship with leaders in our community and who represent us, we also want to increase the number of African Americans who sit in leadership positions to ensure there is greater diversity and inclusion in leadership positions throughout Delaware County, and beyond. We would also like to see more African American business owners receive support and greater diversity in our local schools with our educators and administrators.
- **Staying Connected to the Community:** We believe it is important to be a connector with notifications, meetings, events, and activities that provide useful information and resources to the Black community of Delaware County, addressing issues related to education, health, quality of life, criminal justice, equity, employment opportunities, and more.

- **Ending Systemic Racism:** Over the course of 2022, we took many steps to utilize our voice to speak out against systemic racism and to fight for social justice causes. We will continue to fight for an end to discrimination and racism and support individuals and organizations that are working toward the same goals.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Save the Date	Event / Action
June 2023	DCBC 5th Anniversary Celebration
October 2023	Annual Symposium
October 2023	Apply to become a new member of DCBC
December 2023	Annual Holiday Party & Membership Dues

STAY IN TOUCH WITH US

For more information about the Delaware County Black Caucus, please visit our website at delcoblackcaucus.org or email us at delcoblackcaucus@gmail.com

Please also follow us online at Facebook [@delawarecountyblackcaucus](https://www.facebook.com/delawarecountyblackcaucus) and Instagram [@delcoblackcaucus](https://www.instagram.com/delcoblackcaucus)